

## OCTOBER 23, 2017 SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING

The Polk Township Supervisors met for a Regular Meeting, Monday October 23, 2017 at 7:00pm at the Municipal Building, 165 Polk Twp. Rd., Kresgeville, PA. Supervisors Brian K. Ahner, Michael D. Hurley, Carl S. Heckman, Solicitor James V. Fareri, Engineer Russell R. Kresge, Jr., Zoning/Codes Officer Gerald Zurat & Treasurer Beverly A. Christman were present. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Board welcomed **Girl Scout Troop 50789 & leader Rhiannon Fetterman** who are working on a government badge; and **Steven Ottman**, a 9<sup>th</sup> grade Home & Auto Class, PV student.

**MINUTES:** Ahner moved to approve the 9/25/17 Regular Meeting Minutes; seconded by Hurley. Vote, 3-0. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** MCPC 10/10/17 agenda; 9/12/17 minutes.....CJERP 10/26/17 agenda...Pocono Alliance Report & 211 help number.....PSATS 10/6/17, 10/20/17 & 9/29/17 Reviews & Legal News.... PennDOT LTAP News & Technical Report.....DEP 10/2/17 approval of Sunny's Express action plan.....COG 9/25/17 minutes & bid tabulations.....PPL transmission line E&S and Stormwater Plans....MCCC 2018 Budget. Dirt & Gravel Newsletter... Aqua PA's NPDES permit application is complete enough for review by the MCCD.

### REPORTS:

**Polk Twp. Vol. Fire Co. Chief Tippett:** Calls: Sept.-16; Oct.-5; YTD-158.....Breakfast is Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>..... 42 participants attended the Color-Run fundraiser.....Filling orders due Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> & pick-up is Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>.....Tippett thanked the Supervisors for attending their fire co. meeting & twp. staff for a good working relationship.....Tickets are available for the 50/50 raffle.....West End Food Pantry's Santa activity is Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> at the firehouse.....The tanker currently on the Twp. property is being used for hazmat training.

**West End Ambulance:** Calls in Sept.-24.

**Treasurer Christman:** **Income**-\$100,454.41.....**Bills**-\$311,743.32. Ahner moved to pay the Bills; seconded by Hurley. Vote, 3-0. Motion carried.....**10/23/17 Report:** Total General Fund-\$1,472,006.15, comprised of: [PLGIT-\$305,417.16; Checking-\$534,421.42; Payroll-\$31,168.66; ESSA account-\$600,998.91.] Highway Aid Fund-\$324,039.57. All Funds Total: \$1,796,045.72. Total Escrow Funds-\$48,272.43, comprised of: [Driveway-\$16,089.83; Camp Harlam Girls Septic-\$2,001.65 & Detention Basins-\$30,180.95.] Heckman moved to approve the 10/23/17 Treasurer's Report; seconded by Hurley. Vote, 3-0. Motion carried. The Pension state allocation of \$36,706.02 was received.....\$1,189.57-PURTA income, is from 5 public utilities located in Polk.....The MC Tax Collection Committee's 2016 audit and the 2018 budget were approved.

**Roadmaster Ahner:** Blacktop patching was completed on Kresge Farm Rd., Bear Rd., Hell Hollow Rd. and Floyd Dr. The roadcrew continues to patch roads, potholes and crack-seal.....300 tons of Antiskid were delivered; equipment is being readied for winter; and salt will be ordered Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>.....Arrangements are being made to take down large trees near powerlines that present a danger during winter events.

**SolidWaste/Recycle:** Due to the fire company's safety report, LED lighting will be installed in the recycle building.....The Solid Waste & Recycle Center will remain open on Veteran's Day, Saturday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>.....The office is closed on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>.....Nine pallets of TV's were hauled, along with cardboard, paper, aluminum & wire.

**Secretary Toner:** 'Trick or Treat' is Oct. 31 from 5 to 8.....The welcome sign's landscape block has been completed. The roadcrew will haul ground & mulch to the site. Planting will be held off until next spring..... Tentative date for tree lighting is Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>. The bucket truck is needed to string lights.

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**Solicitor Fareri:** Ahner relayed information on the stone structure over Middle Creek on Dorshimer Rd. that requires repairs and the lack of information on definitive ownership. Fareri will review the documents.

**Zoning/Codes Officer Zurat:** Report # 10 (9/26/17-10/23/17) Permits-37/YTD-381.....Inspections-25/ YTD-210.....2-new homes/ YTD-6.....Right-to-Know request in regards to the Luna Rosa property.....Complaints-4/YTD-65.....17 code issues included: lack of permits for pools, sheds, & decks; illegal trailers; vehicles; tires; solid waste; & burning. Eight cases are not yet in compliance.

**Parks:** Toner relayed the County sign program is paying for boundary & trail markers plus a kiosk. Ahner noted a handicap parking sign should also be ordered.....Toner relayed progress on the Eagle Scout Projects. Evan Bond has completed improvements to the dock and picnic area. Zach Reagle's project is progressing.....Heckman relayed information on the possibility of acquiring property next to the Community Walking Park which would connect the Township park properties by the stream and provide for a natural boundary. Hurley moved to authorize Solicitor Fareri to prepare the documents; whereby the Township enters into an agreement of sale for the purchase of 0.677 acres next to the Polk Twp. Community Walking Park from Suzanne & Richard Vence for the appraised price of \$5,300; and submission of a Subdivision & Lot Line Adjustment Plan to the PC prepared by Surveyor Jonathan Shupp. Seconded by Ahner. Vote, 3-0. Motion carried.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Dotter's Creek Bridge over Hell Hollow Rd. Change Order No. 3 & 4 & payment requests:** Kresge reviewed progress and the details of Change Orders 3 & 4. Work is nearly complete. Heckman moved to approve Change Order No. 3 which includes: extra excavation for footings; placement of ballast stone; and paving of shoulders over the Bridge for an additional cost of \$6,321.20. Seconded by Ahner. Vote, 3-0. Motion carried.

Heckman moved to approve Change Order No. 4 which extends the guide rail 50 LF and substitutes Type 31-S guide rail for Type 2-S for an additional cost of \$1,810.00. Seconded by Ahner. Vote, 3-0. Motion carried.

Kresge has reviewed & certified the request for payment. Ahner moved to approve Grace Industries Payment Application No. 2 for \$126,834.04 for the construction work at the Dotter's Creek Culvert/Bridge over Hell Hollow Rd. Second by Hurley. Vote, 3-0. Motion carried.

**Proposed SALDO & Zoning Amendments:** Fareri is working on the Ordinance form of the amendments.

**Tri-axle Trucks on Twp. Rds.:** The Middle Creek Bridge inspection revealed no new damage at this time. Fareri's 9/26/17 Letter in regards to the truck traffic yielded a productive meeting with representatives and the state police. "No Trucks, except local delivery" signage has been ordered at a cost of \$1,239.00 to be placed along the roads, which are named in the drafted Ordinance to be advertised for adoption at the November meeting.

The Board was in receipt of a drafted comment letter in regards to a DEP permit that again involves truck traffic possibly through Polk Township. Ahner moved to forward the 10/23/17 comment letter to DEP in regards to permit application No. WMGR096 for the proposed reclamation of a sand quarry at 415 Golf Rd., Palmerton, with the correction of the road width from 33' to a paved width of 20'. Seconded by Hurley. Vote, 3-0. Motion carried.

**Zoning Codes Position:** The Board has interviewed two applicants to date.

**Camp Harlam Drainage along Smith Rd.:** A written thank-you will be sent to Director Selkow for his cooperation in completing the requested drainage improvements at Camp Harlam.

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**Lower Middle Creek Bridge Repair:** Grace Industries would like to start the repair; however, the insurance estimator has requested specific details be outlined in Grace Industries \$14,545.00 quote.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Box Truck:** A quote had been received to replace the rear door on the box truck. Ahner moved to approve the ordering of a Todco truck door and door hardware which will be installed by Palmerton Garage Doors, Inc. for the quoted price of \$1,410.00. Seconded by Heckman. Vote, 3-0. Motion carried.

**SALDO Amendment on Plan Signatures:** Fareri will include this amendment in the ordinance draft he is currently working on. SALDO Sections 408.1.F.4 & 408.1.F.6 are incorrect in the requirements for the number of members from the Planning Commission & Board of Supervisors who's signatures are required on a Plan in order to be recorded.

**Monroe County Association of Township Officials:** The Business Meeting is Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, at Stroud Township Municipal Building.

**Calendar Dates for 2018:** The following changes were reviewed: The meeting times in the months of April, May, November & December are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday rather than the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday. Also, the reorganizational meeting on Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup> will be an evening meeting at 7pm. Due to Ahner's concerns, Fareri noted that a snow date of Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> could also be advertised for the reorganizational meeting.

**Township Fields:** Ahner asked about the possibility of paying a farmer to mow Township fields, since the Township equipment is not large enough to do this type of mowing quickly. Tippet noted that he might have a person who could mow the field next to the firehouse and there would be no charge. Complaints have also been made about the invasive high weeds and numerous scrap trees growing in the Township's shale pit field. In the past the area was freely mowed and baled by a farmer for his own use. Another farmer will mow the field for a fee and estimates it will take 6 hrs. Hurley moved to approve the payment of \$150.00 per hr. to farmer Neal Murphy for a 1-time mowing, at the end of the growing season, of the Township's corner field property located along Interchange Rd. and Polk Township Rd. Seconded by Heckman. Vote, 3-0. Motion carried.

**Cedar Trees:** During the Township's safety check by the Polk Twp. Vol. Fire Co. they suggested that the tall cedar trees by the salt building be removed for better visibility while backing up. Ahner also noted that the trees shade the parking lot in winter and prevent thawing; therefore, he asked the Board members if they were all in favor of cutting down the trees. Hurley and Heckman verbally agreed to the removal of the cedar trees.

**Residents & Taxpayers:** Resident Robert Andre suggested a ribbon cutting for the opening of the new culvert /bridge over Dotter's Creek.

**Executive Session:** The Board, Solicitor, and Zurat went into Executive Session from 7:44 to 8:14pm. Fareri reported that personnel matters were discussed and no decisions were made and no votes were taken by the Board during executive session.

As there was no further business, Ahner adjourned the Regular Meeting at 8:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Ruthanne Toner, Secretary